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'Unwise to Crucify Organization'

3 Big Ten Student Leaders Oppose Pullout from NSA

By IRNA MOORE
(Of The Capital Times Staff)

The student body presidents of three Big Ten universities today strongly supported the National Student Association (NSA) and rejected any move to pull out of the national student group because of its recently revealed financial support from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Here for a two-day conference, the presidents of the student organizations at Minnesota, Illinois and Wisconsin joined Wisconsin Student Association (WSA) President Gary Zweifel in supporting NSA. Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota and Michigan are the only Big Ten schools which are members of NSA. The Michigan student body president was delayed by bad weather.

Bob Outis, student body president at Illinois, called the CIA support of the NSA "unfortunate," but pointed out that NSA officers had revealed the situation and "tried to do away with it themselves."

"The leadership of NSA changes every year," he said. "It would be unwise to crucify the present leaders or the organization for something that started 15 years ago when the CIA first began supplying money."

Outis added that NSA had done a great deal to "put a stigma" on Michigan State professors who were doing work for the CIA and that "it's ironic that NSA should be caught in the same act."

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Newell

Outis

"Of course, it's detrimental to our cause to have a government agency involved. But that's no reason to abandon the organization which we've all held as the one viable organization of students," he said.

Outis said that the feeling on the Illinois campus is to support NSA, and that "only a small minority" is talking about pulling out.

Zweifel described the Wisconsin reaction to the CIA support as "shocked disbelief followed by an attempt to find out exactly what was going on. It was like a bombshell to everyone."

He added that a bill passed Thursday night by the Wisconsin Student Senate had directed him to secure a full report from the NSA president on the relationship between the CIA and the NSA from 1952 to 1965.

"What we've got to do now," Zweifel said, "is try to find a way so that something like this never happens again. We definitely shouldn't pull out, but we should take a look at reorganizing NSA."

"I personally feel that no student government should take money from any government organization. The disclosure of CIA support cuts confidence in the NSA, but its program has been outstanding and the need for a national student group is important."

Zweifel added that the Wisconsin Student Senate had also voted Thursday night to support the severance of all NSA happening again."

A representative from Indiana, which is not a member of his campus was, "Now that we've found out the government is supporting NSA we might just join it."

ties with the CIA.

NSA Advisory Council officers in Washington Thursday said that all CIA support would be severed and denied rumors that the student group was secretly considering ways to maintain CIA aid.

Zweifel said that the "New Left" students at Wisconsin were not moving to get the U.W. to pull out.

Bill Newell, student body president at Minnesota, said that his school is "firmly supporting NSA as a concept and as the only true national student union," he added:

"NSA had been discredited and the credibility of its international programs especially is completely gone. But the crisis had made us realize that we must revitalize and reconstruct NSA."

"To restore a sense of credibility we must not pull out. The NSA congress which will meet this summer will have to analyze if there is something inherent in a national student group which allows things like this to happen and find out what we can do to prevent it from

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